

TO ALBERT W. C. T. HERRE

Dr. Herre, the California Botanical Society congratulates you on your forthcoming ninety-third birthday, September 16, 1961. This close approach to the century mark in itself excites admiration among us, for few indeed possess the heritage that makes such an accomplishment possible. But attainment of this outstanding age is but one of the attributes that places you high in our esteem, for your accomplishments as a naturalist in the fields of ichthyology, lichenology, and ecology through three quarters of a century set you apart as a scientist extraordinary.

As we realize that lichenology has claimed only a segment of your thought, study, and publishing activities, and that your list of papers dealing with taxonomic ichthyology, ecology, and geographical distribution of fishes includes several hundred titles, we marvel that one man has been able to accomplish so much in his life-time, long and busy though it has been. Nor, we realize, has writing scientific papers, monographs, and textbooks claimed all of your time and energy. Individuals well beyond middle age can recall that their early grade and high school training occurred under your supervision while you served as teacher, principal, and superintendent of schools. Others are equally aware of your administrative and research activities in the Philippines and your promotion of careful work on fishes and other natural resources in that part of the world before you returned to the United States in 1928.

We remember, also, that you accepted a challenging appointment with the Fish and Wildlife Service after you became Curator Emeritus of the Ichthyological Collections at Stanford University in 1947, and spent a strenuous year in your old area of field operations, the Philippine Islands, carrying on extensive collecting activities.

Adding further to your laurels, you followed the Philippine work with a dozen years as Ichthyologist and Curator of Tropical Fishes at the University of Washington, carrying forward work on large collections of lichens during your "spare" time. Then, when Mrs. Herre's health was jeopardized by the cool, damp climate along the Washington coast, and you moved to Santa Cruz, some thought you would be content to reduce your work load and withdraw from active participation in biological research. Others, who knew better your penchant for continuous work, were not greatly surprised that instead, you launched into the final stages of preparing a monograph on the genus *Usnea* as represented in North America. Few, indeed, have the strength, the desire, and the will to take up such an arduous task when nearly ninety years of age. Still fewer successfully apply to the National Science Foundation for a grant to enable them to visit over a score of herbaria and private collections to carry the undertaking to completion!

In celebration of your ninety-third birthday, we congratulate you on your scientific accomplishments, admire your physical stamina and mental alertness, wish we could consistently display your cheerfulness,



*Mr. Albert W. Herre
on his 85th birthday, Sept. 16, 1953*

and hope that one of us may have the privilege of preparing a congratulatory message to you seven years hence. We sincerely hope that you will enjoy yet more years of extraordinary good health and continue your interest in the various phases of natural history that have fascinated you, and to which you have contributed so much during a large portion of a century.—IRA L. WIGGINS, Stanford University.